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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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04/08/1998

JOHN D. MCCOWN

033449-002

6282

27805

7590

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EXAMINER

O'CONNOR, GERALD J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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2 MONTHS

02/01/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

**OFFICE ACTION**

***Requirement for Information - 37 CFR § 1.105***

1. Applicant and the assignee of this application are required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the information described hereinbelow, which information the examiner has determined is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application.
2. This information is required in order to identify products and services embodying the disclosed subject matter of applicant's invention and identify the properties of similar products and services found in the prior art.
3. In response to this requirement, please provide the title, citation, and a copy of each publication that is a source used for the description of the prior art in the disclosure. For each publication, please provide a concise explanation of that publication's contribution to the description of the prior art.
4. In response to this requirement, please provide the title, citation, and a copy of each publication that any of the applicants relied upon to develop the disclosed subject matter of applicant's invention. For each publication, please provide a concise explanation of the reliance placed on that publication in the development of the disclosed subject matter.

5. In response to this requirement, please provide a copy of any non-patent literature, U.S. or foreign published application, or U.S. or foreign patent, by any of the inventors or assigned to the same assignee as the current application that relates to the claimed invention.
6. In response to this requirement, please identify any pending or abandoned applications filed by at least one of the inventors, or assigned to the same assignee as the current application, that disclose similar subject matter that are not otherwise identified in the current application.
7. In response to this requirement, please state whether any search of prior art was performed. If a search was performed, please state the citation for each prior art collection searched. If any art retrieved from the search was considered material to demonstrating the knowledge of the prior art, please provide a citation and copy for each piece of art considered.
8. In response to this requirement, please provide the names of any products or services that have incorporated the disclosed prior art.
9. In response to this requirement, please provide the trade names and providers of any goods or services in competition with the goods or services in which the claimed subject matter has been embodied.

10. In response to this requirement, please provide any written descriptions or analyses, prepared by any of the inventors or assignees, of goods or services in competition with the goods or services in which the claimed subject matter has been embodied.
11. In response to this requirement, please provide the names of any products or services that have incorporated the claimed subject matter.
12. In response to this requirement, please provide the citation for, the dates initially published, and copies of any advertising and promotional literature prepared for any goods or services in which the claimed subject matter has been embodied.
13. In response to this requirement, please provide the citation for, the dates initially published, and copies of any journal articles describing any goods or services in which the claimed subject matter has been embodied.
14. In response to this requirement, please state the specific improvements of the claimed subject matter over the disclosed prior art and indicate the specific elements in the claimed subject matter that provide those improvements. For any claims expressed as means or steps plus function, please provide the specific page and line numbers within the disclosure that describe the claimed structure and acts.

15. In responding to those requirements that require copies of documents, where the document is a bound text or a single article over 50 pages, the requirement may be met by providing copies of only those pages that provide the particular subject matter indicated in the requirement, or where such subject matter is not indicated, the subject matter found in applicant's disclosure.
16. The fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 are waived for documents submitted in reply to this requirement. This waiver extends only to those documents within the scope of this requirement under 37 CFR 1.105 included in applicant's first complete response to this requirement. Any supplemental replies and any information disclosures beyond the scope of this requirement under 37 CFR 1.105 remain subject to the fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR 1.97.
17. Applicant is reminded that the reply to this requirement must be made with candor and good faith under 37 CFR 1.56. Where applicant does not have or cannot readily obtain an item of required information, a statement that the item is unknown or cannot be readily obtained will be accepted as a complete reply to the requirement for that item.
18. This requirement is subject to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.134, 1.135 and 1.136 and has a shortened statutory period for reply of **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mailing date of this notice, in order to avoid abandonment. **EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).**

***Conclusion***

19. Any inquiry concerning this communication, or earlier communications, should be directed to the examiner, **Jerry O'Connor**, whose telephone number is **(571) 272-6787**, and whose facsimile number is **(571) 273-6787**.

Official replies to this Office action may now be submitted electronically by registered users of the EFS-Web system. Information on EFS-Web tools is available on the Internet at: <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/portal/tools.htm>. An EFS-Web Quick-Start Guide is available at: <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/portal/efs/quick-start.pdf>.

Alternatively, official replies to this Office action may still be submitted by any *one* of fax, mail, or hand delivery. **Faxed replies should be directed to the central fax at (571) 273-8300.** Mailed replies should be addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450." Hand delivered replies should be delivered to the "Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314."

GJOC

January 30, 2007



Gerald J. O'Connor

Primary Examiner

Group Art Unit 3627